



CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN '98: GEORGE & CHIN ARE IN A FIGHT WITH CONSERVATIVES TO WIN CONFIRMATION.

Editor's note: For CA Supreme Court Chief Justice Ron George and Associate Justice Ming Chin, a key event is just 5 days away: the Sept. 25-27 CA Republican Party convention in Long Beach. Conservatives want the CRP to *oppose confirmation* for these two jurists. Here's our update & analysis, with data from The Field Poll...

...Looking at the polling data first, it shows George and Chin holding 2-to-1 leads in favor of confirmation, but the majority of voters are undecided:

	<u>confirm</u>	<u>remove</u>	<u>undec.</u>
George	34%	16%	50%
Chin	29%	15%	56%

...The conservatives, led by an umbrella group called Citizens for Judicial Integrity (which includes the CA Right to Life League and the influential CA Republican Assembly), are on the warpath ever since George and Chin voted to overturn CA's parental consent law dealing with abortions for minors. The Field Poll shows that **68%** are in favor of parental consent, while **27%** are opposed, with **5%** offering no opinion. Given the fact that the conservative wing controls the CA Republican Party, will the CRP oppose George and Chin or will the allies of Gov. Pete Wilson have the clout stop this? No one is sure...

...The recommendation on what to do will come from a committee chaired by Riverside State Sen. Ray Haynes, himself is a strong anti-abortion advocate. And he's no friend of George or Chin and recently wrote an op-ed piece for the California Republican (the CRA's in-house newspaper) called, "The Arrogance of Judicial Activism." If the CRP votes to *oppose confirmation* for George & Chin, the whole abortion question again

moves to the *front burner* and that's not especially good news for Dan Lungren, who is officially neutral on the confirmation of George & Chin...

...FYI: In the Field Poll, **61%** favor an abortion in the 1st trimester of pregnancy, but support drops sharply in the 2nd or 3rd trimester. However, **78%** support late term abortions *if the health of the mother is threatened*. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: EDUCATION A KEY ISSUE NOV. 3rd.

Editor's note: A recent survey published in the San Jose Mercury News showed that voters in the Silicon Valley rate *education* as one of their top priorities. And other surveys support this. Here's our report & analysis...

...How do we know education is such a hot topic in Campaign '98? Why else would Lt. Gov. Gray Davis (D) and U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D) both be using educational issues in their first statewide tv ads if it weren't so important? And least anyone forget, there was a huge battle over bilingual education (Prop. 227) in June, as well as constant stream of stories about the lousy statewide reading & math test scores...

...In the November election, there are again two key statewide measures dealing with education: **Prop. 8** and **Prop. 1-A**, and a down-ballot runoff for State Sup. of Public Instruction between incumbent Delaine Eastin and school teacher Gloria Matta Tuchman. In addition, voters in San Diego will be voting on local **Prop. MM**, a \$1.5 **billion** education bond. So educational issues are again critical in this election cycle...

...Now to **Prop. 8**, which is Gov. Pete Wilson's educational reform initiative. It's leading in all the polls, but there is a large coalition lined up against it. Here is

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how it looks in the polls by Mason/Dixon (late July), the Field Poll (mid August) and the Election Connection (late August):

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>E/C</u>
YES on 8	71%	55%	71%
NO on 8	13%	24%	12%
Undec.	16%	21%	17%

...The coalition opposing Prop. 8 includes the PTA, CA School Bds. Assn., LWV, CA Federation of Teachers, CTA, PORAC and get this -- the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn., CA Republican Assembly and the CA Demo Party. The HJTA and the conservatives have joined with CDP because they don't like Prop. 8's provision establishing an *education czar* (Office of Chief Inspector), with a 10-year appointment and no legislative confirmation. FYI: some GOP insiders think Gov. Wilson should have stayed on the sidelines and let AG Dan Lungren(R) enjoy the spotlight in November instead of again jousting with CTA & Company...

...Also opposed to Prop. 8 is incumbent SPI Eastin, who is locked in a tough reelection battle with Matta Tuchman, a co-chair of Prop. 227. Matta Tuchman's name was not on the current list of opponents - so she probably hasn't made up her mind just yet. In the primary, Eastin got **43%** vs. **25.6%** for Matta Tuchman, but here's how they stand in the current Field Poll: Eastin **37%** vs. Tuchman **18%**...

...And finally there is **Prop. 1-A**, the \$9.2 billion bond measure. The 1-A steering cmt. just selected Godard Claussen as the lead consultant, with McNally Temple doing direct mail; Burson Marsteller handling free media and coalition building; and Gale Kaufman also doing coalition building. The YES on 1-A group doesn't have a formal name as yet, but sources say the overall coalition has members with *deep pockets* and lots of clout, including hi-tech businesses, labor, the CA Business Roundtable, the CA Taxpayers Assn. and the CA Chamber of Commerce...

...But it may **not** be an easy campaign. \$9 billion is lots of money and some conservatives lawmakers have already gone on record against 1-A. The CA Republican Assembly's BoD has voted to oppose and now the big question is whether the full CA Republican Party will take a similar position at its upcoming convention. So far there is no formal opposition. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Sept. 21	Calpeek publisher Dick Rosengarten addresses the Employers Group, L.A.
Sept. 22	Ballot Measure Debates (5,8,9 &10), sponsored by CA Society of Assn. Executives, 9 a.m., Hyatt Regency, Sacramento.
Sept. 23	L.A. Times publisher Mark Willes addresses TownHall, L.A.
Sept. 25-27	CA Republican Party convention, Long Beach.
Sept. 24-26	10th annual Envisioning Calif. Conference, Sacramento.
Sept. 30	Last day for governor to sign or veto bills.

CAMPAIGN '98: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Last week **Calpeek** presented the side-by-side polling data for **Prop. 5** (Indian Gaming). This week we'll present polling data for **Prop. 9** (utilities); **Prop. 10** (tobacco tax); and **Prop. 3** (presidential primaries). The polling data is from Mason/Dixon (late July); The Field Poll (mid August) and The Election Connection (late August)...

◆ **Prop. 9** - This is an initiative to repeal SB 1890, the landmark utility deregulation bill passed by the Legislature in 1996-97. The NO on 9 side is on tv and radio. The tv ad (produced by Winner/Wagner & Mandabach Campaigns) has a very catchy "don't go backwards" theme. The polling data is *mixed*, with M/D showing #9 ahead, while Field shows it trailing...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>
Yes on 9	57%	20%
No on 9	19%	43%
Undec.	24%	37%

● **Prop. 10** - This is the tobacco surtax measure. The revenue from this measure would go to early childhood development programs. Haven't seen anything in the way of news from either side - so far, but the surveys all seem to be pointing toward a win for #10...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>E/C</u>
Yes on 10	54%	56%	56%
No on 10	32%	34%	33%
Undec.	14%	10%	11%

● **Prop. 3** - For *political animals*, this is the one to watch because unless it is approved, both the CA Demo & Republican Parties won't be able to hold direct elections for presidential candidates in 2000. Party rules state that only Demos can vote for Demo presidential candidates --- ditto for the GOP. Under the current **open primary law**, voters can cross party lines to cast

ballots for any candidate, regardless of party. The only survey is by Mervin Field. It shows YES on 3 at **28%**, NO on 3 at **49%**, with **23%** undecided. The CDP and CRP will do editorial boards and will try to get YES on 3 on the various slatecards, but nothing more...

CAMPAIGN '98: A LOOK AT DOWN BALLOT RACES.

Editor's note: Last week **Calpeek** took a look at the top of the ticket races. This week we'll focus on some of the down-ballot Statewide contests --- again using side-by-side polling data from Mason/Dixon (late July) and the Field Poll (mid August). Here's our update...

☒ **Controller** - Incumbent Kathleen Connell(D) is the only incumbent Statewide constitutional officer that insiders think wins *without much trouble*. In the primary, Connell got **59%** vs. **32.7%** for GOPer Ruben Barrales, a San Mateo Co. Sup. And Connell has a very healthy warchest as well, while Barrales is struggling. Here's how the two look in the current polls:

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>
Connell(D)	54%	46%
Barrales(R)	27	24%
Undec.		30%

...FYI: Barrales was recently endorsed by the Calif. League of Conservation Voters(CLCV)...

☒ **State Treasurer** - Insiders say this is going to be one of the closest statewide races. Businessman and former CDP chair Phil Angelides faces Assemblyman Curt Pringle(R). Angelides has a big lead in fundraising, but insiders think Pringle, despite his problems with the 1988 poll guard incident and the 67th AD voter fraud brouhaha in Orange Co., could win this race. The polling is very tight:

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>
Pringle(R)	30%	31%
Angelides(D)	32%	28%
Undecided	38%	41%

...FYI: Pringle has been endorsed by both of Angelides' Demo primary opponents, Mervin Evans and South Gate City Treasurer Albert Robles. Evans is a gadfly, but Robles got 930,000 votes. Angelides was concerned enough about the Robles news that he faxed a list of Latino endorsements he's received - including 3 Latino councilmembers from South Gate. And June Roberti, wife of former Senator David Roberti, who Angelides savaged in the '94 primary, will host a fundraising event

for Pringle. One note of substance: Angelides is supporting **Prop. 1-A**, while Pringle is opposed and voted against it in the Legislature. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: CITY & COUNTY BALLOT MEASURES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key city and county ballot measures facing voters Nov. 3rd...

◆ **San Diego City** - Lead consultant for the San Diego School District's \$1.5 billion school bond measure is The Primacy Group. DC-based Seder Laguens & Hamburger will produce tv ads; Susan Burnside will handle field ops; and Fairbank Maslin Maullin & Assoc. will do polling. The only opposition to **Prop. MM** so far is the Libertarian Party of Calif...

...And then there is **Prop. D**, which amends the 30-foot height limits in the Coastal Zone to allow Sea World to plan and construct new exhibits. No taxpayer funds are to be spent on improvements. Consultants are The Primacy Group and Anderson & Kern...

...A new survey for the Union Tribune/NBC 7/39 finds that San Diego voters favor **Prop. C**, a \$411 million ballot measure to provide tax dollars to build a new baseball stadium for the San Diego Padres. The polls shows **48%** in favor vs. **31%** opposed, with **21%** undecided. The poll was taken between Aug. 26 and Sept. 4, among 605 registered voters...

◆ **San Francisco** - In Nov. of '97, voters approved a local measure to rebuild the earthquake-damaged Central Freeway. The measure was put on the ballot by politically active Asian Americans. The opposition to this measure was led by environmentalists. Now the environmentalists have qualified **Prop. E** to repeal the '97 results. Sources say this could be a close election. The other measure getting some attention in S.F. is **Prop. H**, a continuation of the local hotel tax. Whitehurst Campaigns, Solem & Assoc. and Robert Barnes & Assoc. are all working on the YES side...

◆ **L.A. City** - Update on **Measure EE**, a \$46.5 million bond for Exposition Park. Sources say Mayor Riordan is neutral and no longer opposes EE. If there's money for a campaign, sources expect consultant Larry Levine to handle it. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on some of the key U.S. House races in Calif...

☒ **36th CD** - Some new polling numbers for Demo Janice Hahn in her battle with GOP Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall. The poll was taken Aug. 26-28, among 500 likely voters. The initial data shows Kuykendall 24%, Hahn 22%, with 5% for others and 49% undecided. Throw in the positive push for both and it's Kuykendall 33% vs. Hahn 31%. The only time Hahn comes out on top is when the negatives are thrown at Kuykendall...

☒ **3rd CD** - In this open seat, GOP candidate Doug Ose is on the radio with a \$130,000 buy. He's got two spots. As for Demo Sandie Dunn, she's had Demo House Leader Richard Gephardt in the 3rd to campaign for her. The DCCC has targeted this district...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON ASSEMBLY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here is our 2nd update on CA State Assembly contests...

☒ **43rd AD** - Prior to and just after the June '98 primary, freshman Demo Assemblyman Scott Wildman was regarded as perhaps the most endangered Demo in the Assembly. Oh how the situation has changed! Instead of being lean GOP, this critical assembly seat now leans Demo. Republican candidate Peter Repovich's self-destruction isn't as pronounced as what happened to Rich Sybert, but it's close. First, Repovich, an LAPD officer, was hit with a sexual harassment charge (and suspension). Next followed the endorsement of Wildman by the L.A. Police Protective League. And then U.S. Rep. James Rogan(R-Glendale), who helped clear the primary field for Repovich, pulled his support. Sources say Rogan was really POed because he wasn't told about all of Repovich's problems. This was a seat that the GOP was counting on and only a minor miracle will reverse the situation...

☒ **61st & 62nd ADs** - These are the two districts in L.A. and San Bernardino Counties where the Demos and GOP are engaged in **WWIII**. The two ADs are nested inside the very important **32nd Senate District** (Demo Assemblyman Joe Baca vs. GOP Chino Mayor Eunice Ulloa). The Demos have a lock on the open

62nd AD with Rialto Mayor John Longville(D) vs. Irma Escobar(R). It has heavy Demo registration: 57.98%. But the open **61st AD** is a district in transition. Right now GOP registration is 38% vs 45% Demo. Demos need just a little more registration in order to be competitive. Demo Pomona Councilwoman Nell Soto faces Ontario businessman Bob DeMallie(R). Soto has better name ID, but the Assembly Demos have yet to target this race. That may come later. Right now a slight edge to DeMallie, but beware: labor is pumping lots of resources into the 61st AD, 62nd AD, 32nd SD and **42nd CD** of Demo U.S. Rep. George Brown. If the Demos can come close or win the 61st, that almost assures a win by Baca. On the other hand, if the GOP wins big in the 61st and the Demos don't turn out in the 62nd, Baca could be in big trouble. More races next week. Stay tuned...

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